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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:	G. O'Beirne, et al.	Group Art Unit:	To be assigned
Serial Number:	To be assigned	Examiner:	To be assigned
Filing Date:	To be assigned	Docket No.	PA0248
Title:	Functional Screening Method		

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

January 14, 2005

Introductory Comments

Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the prosecution of the captioned application, which is a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and claims priority to international application number PCT/GB2003/002983 filed July 10, 2003. This application also claims priority to patent application number 0216674.2 filed in Great Britain on July 18, 2002.